

# Wheel Inspection Reveals Rust

**R**ust eats only one thing—metal. Truck wheels are metal. But not all metal in a wheel is visible for inspection at all times.

That includes the part of a wheel that's covered by the tire. When it rusts, a tire may not come off the wheel using normal manual or machine procedures.

This is especially true for multi-piece wheels, where the tire bead must be pushed off the rim.

If rust has had long enough to work on the metal, a heavy enough layer of the stuff can keep the tire from being easily removed.

Here's one easy way to get a tire off a rusted wheel. Using the bead breaker or bead roller/combo tool on your tire machine, push the tire further onto the rim base to expose the rust around the rim.

Then use a wire brush and lots of tire mounting and demounting lubricant, NSN 2640-00-256-5527, to remove the rust and lube the rim.

Once rust is removed all around the wheel, most tires slide off the rim base with little effort. After the tire is off, inspect the wheel for other damage. If the wheel remains serviceable, paint it with CARC to prevent more rust. Use Green 383. Get a quart with NSN 8010-01-229-7546 or a gallon with NSN 8010-01-229-9561. Refer to TB 43-0242 for precautions and procedures.

